

CSU MICROSOFT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FACT SHEET

Student application deadline (to campus): June 30, 2021

The CSU Microsoft Scholarship Program was established for CSU credential students. The \$5,000 scholarship is designed to serve candidates in CSU single-subject mathematics or science teacher preparation programs and is available to those committed to teaching in a high-need school for at least two years. The scholarship recognizes candidates who demonstrate a financial need and have attributes of merit, including excellent academic performance, significant personal achievements and community service. All potentially eligible candidates are encouraged to apply. It is planned that at least 120 scholarships will be awarded systemwide. A certain percentage of scholarships will be awarded to each campus that has a single-subject credential program in mathematics and/or science. Using 2019-2020 Commission on Teacher Credentialing data, the number of awards per campus will be based on the total number of mathematics and science preliminary credentials produced by that campus in relation to those produced by the entire CSU.

Applicants must:

- Be currently enrolled in a CSU single-subject mathematics or science teacher credentialing program during the academic year 2021-2022 (fall and/or spring terms).
- Demonstrate financial need, as determined by the campus financial aid office.
- Be in good academic standing.
- Agree to at least two years of teaching in a high-need school after finishing the program.
- Complete an application, which includes the following:
 - Application form (with signed commitment to seek a position in a high-need school);
 - Personal statement (explaining the need for the scholarship and motivation for wanting to teach mathematics or science in a high-need school – two-page maximum);
 - Unofficial transcript(s);
 - Letter of endorsement from a relevant advocate (e.g., faculty member, program advisor, mentor teacher) indicating why the applicant is deserving of the scholarship.

Applications are available through the CSU colleges/schools of education. Candidates will submit completed applications to the campus' teacher credentialing program by June 30, 2021. The program will review the applications to ensure that applicants meet all requirements (including amount of financial need verified through the campus' financial aid office) and then have a committee determine which applicants to nominate. **Each program will then forward selected applicants' completed packets, with amount of unmet financial need, to the Chancellor's Office no later than August 6, 2021.** Recipients will be notified on or before September 6, 2021.

Note: The application form needs to be completely filled out. Do not leave any line blank. If there is no information to provide, write "N/A." *Each item* submitted with the application packet (e.g., Personal Statement, Letter of Endorsement) should be clearly labeled and include the applicant's full name.

CSU Campuses

Bakersfield
Channel Islands
Chico
Dominguez Hills
East Bay

Fresno
Fullerton
Humboldt
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Maritime Academy

Monterey Bay
Northridge
Pomona
Sacramento
San Bernardino
San Diego

San Francisco
San José
San Luis Obispo
San Marcos
Sonoma
Stanislaus

Frequently Asked Questions CSU Microsoft Scholarship Program (AY 2021-2022)

1. Are AB540 (undocumented) students allowed to apply?

Yes, AB540 students can apply for and receive institutional scholarships. Thus, they can apply for the CSU Microsoft Scholarship Program.

2. Who can write the letter of endorsement?

The “letter of endorsement” can be submitted by anyone who is in an appropriate position to comment on the applicant’s experience with and/or potential for effective teaching in a high-need school (e.g., faculty member, program coordinator, field supervisor, K-12 employee).

3. What is the definition of a “high-need school?”

The basic criterion for defining a high-need school is the following: the school is one with 50 percent or more of the enrolled pupils who are socioeconomically disadvantaged defined, per California State Board of Education policy, as students (1) eligible for free and reduced price meals, (2) who are migrant, homeless, or foster youth, or (3) where neither of the parents were a high school graduate. These numbers are reported on the California School Dashboard.

4. What if an applicant has less than \$5,000 of unmet financial need?

A program may still nominate an applicant with less than \$5,000 of unmet need. In this situation, the program can nominate an additional applicant, with both awards totaling a maximum of \$5,000.

5. What if the program receives more applications from eligible students than the program is allotted nominees by the Chancellor’s Office?

If a program has more eligible applicants than it is allotted, it can send a request to the Chancellor’s Office for additional funding. If another campus can’t use all of its allotted scholarships, then there may be funding remaining.

6. What if more time is needed to recruit applications from eligible students?

If a program needs to make an adjustment to the stated timeline, please request an extension from the Chancellor’s Office. You may also recruit from students beginning Spring 2022 (full scholarship must then be awarded for that term, as all funds must be expended AY 21-22).

7. What if a scholarship recipient is not able to find a position in a high-need school following graduation from the math/science credential program?

Anyone receiving a scholarship should try to fulfill the obligation. However, the Chancellor’s Office will not be tracking for this specific purpose. Thus, if a recipient is not able to secure such a position, there will not be financial consequences.

8. What if I have additional questions and/or need to make a request?

Email Dr. Babette Benken (babette.benken@csulb.edu)

CSU SYSTEMWIDE SCHOLARSHIPS

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Please make sure that all items are completed and verified before the application packet is submitted.

CSU MICROSOFT SCHOLARSHIP

Application Item	Completed
Applicant Information Form	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal Statement (see fact sheet for details)	<input type="checkbox"/>
One Letter of Endorsement (see fact sheet for details)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unofficial Transcript from Current Institution(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Each application and checklist must be attached as one combined PDF and e-mailed to the campus single subject credential program.

Please do not send physical files.

Contact your campus credential program with any additional questions.

Application deadline to the credential program is June 30, 2021.